## **PATENT**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                   |        |  |              | •           |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--|--------------|-------------|
| Applicant                         | ·:     | D. Dube, et al.  |              | •           |
| Serial No.                        | . :    | To be assigned   | Case MCO73YP | . Art Unit: |
| Filed                             | :      | July 24, 2003  |              | . Examiner: |
| For                               | :.<br> | 4-OXO-1-(3-SUBSTITUTED PHENYL-1,4-DIHYDRO-1,8-NAPHTHYRIDINE-3-CARBOXAMIDE PHOSPHODIESTERASE-4 INHIBITORS |              | · · · · · · |
| Commissi<br>P.O. Box<br>Alexandri | 1450   | Patents nia 22313-1450   |              |             |

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

The above-identified case is a PCT application entering the U.S. National phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1) (a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begin on page 2 of this paper.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**REMARKS** begin on page 14 of this paper.

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